



Georgia Tech
Alumni Association®



El Camino de Santiago A Walking Tour In Northern Spain

March 20 – April 1, 2026

The background of the entire page is a photograph of the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela. The top half shows the ornate, golden-roofed spires against a clear blue sky. The bottom half shows the stone facade of the cathedral, featuring large arched windows and intricate carvings.

TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

EXPERIENCE the most interesting sections of the **Camino de Santiago**, the world's most famous pilgrimage route, with expert guides.

WITNESS **spectacular history and share moments of beauty** and reflection as travelers along the Camino have done for centuries.

BEGIN a series of walks along the Camino in **Roncesvalles**, Spain, one of the main entrances to the route, and end in **Santiago de Compostela**, the capital of Galicia and a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

ADMIRE awe-inspiring cathedrals and monasteries in **Nájera, Burgos, León**, and other pilgrimage cities along the way, and enjoy leisure time to explore Spain's lovely Galicia region.

ATTEND **midday Mass at the magnificent Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela**, where the famous *Botafumeiro* ritual will be performed.

GO behind the scenes of several UNESCO World Heritage Sites that line the Camino, including the French Gothic-style **Burgos Cathedral**, with its opulent Renaissance *retablo*.

ENJOY **private tours** of two of only three structures that the great architect **Antoni Gaudí** built outside of Catalonia, his home region.

JOURNEY to **Cape Finisterre**, once considered the end of the Earth, to watch the sunset over the Atlantic Ocean.

HEAR Gregorian chants performed by the world-famous monks of the monastery of **Santo Domingo de Silos**, whose two-story cloister is considered a masterpiece of Romanesque art.

Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela

Dear Georgia Tech Alumni and Friends,

From **March 20 to April 1, 2026**, travel with us along one of Europe's most enduring cultural routes: **Spain's Camino de Santiago**. For over a millennium, pilgrims and wayfarers have followed this network of footpaths toward the shrine of Saint James in Santiago de Compostela.

On this **adventurous** program, walk some of the Camino's most evocative sections, crossing historic towns and countryside shaped by centuries of religious devotion and local life. Visit Romanesque chapels, medieval bridges, and UNESCO-listed cathedrals that have long anchored this route through northern Spain.

In Santiago de Compostela, attend the midday pilgrim Mass at the cathedral and observe the **Botafumeiro**, the ritual swinging of a massive incense thurible that dates to the Middle Ages. Those interested may join an optional sunset excursion to **Cape Finisterre**, a windswept Atlantic outpost once believed to mark the end of the known world.

Daily walks average about 3.5 miles, with one day reaching approximately 5.5 miles. There are built-in rest days for cultural visits and local exploration. Accommodations include former monasteries and *paradores*, and meals feature regional dishes and wines drawn from the Camino's distinct culinary traditions.

To reserve your place, contact Arrangements Abroad at 212-514-8921 or 800-221-1944, or email trips@arrangementsabroad.com. We hope you will consider joining this journey through one of Spain's most resonant landscapes.

Sincerely,



Martin Ludwig
Sr. Director of Travel
Georgia Tech Alumni Association
404-894-0758
travel@gtalumni.org



Activity Level:
Adventurous

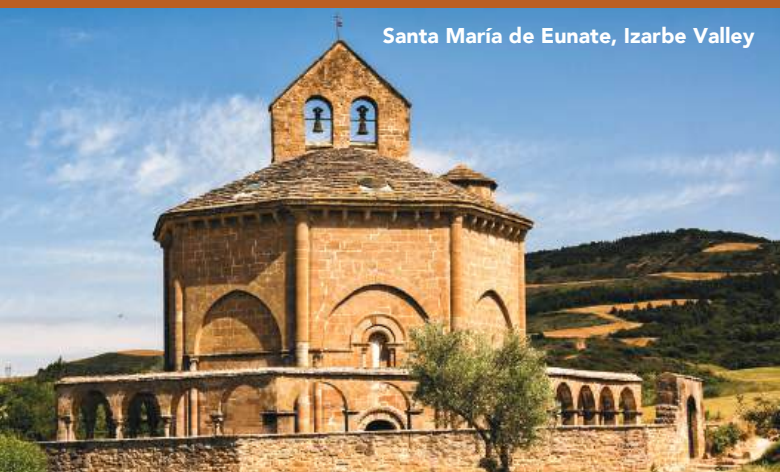
Pace Level:
Presto



Visit Arrangements Abroad's website for more information about Activity and Pace Levels at www.arrangementsabroad.com/faqs.

El Camino de Santiago A Walking Tour In Northern Spain

March 20 – April 1, 2026



FRIDAY, MARCH 20: DEPARTURE

Depart on an overnight flight to Pamplona via Madrid.

SATURDAY, MARCH 21: MADRID, SPAIN / PAMPLONA

R

Arrive in Pamplona in the late afternoon and transfer to the Hotel Tres Reyes. This evening, gather with fellow travelers for a welcome reception and an *aperitif*.

SUNDAY, MARCH 22: PAMPLONA / RNCESVALLES / PAMPLONA

B,L,D

MORNING

- **Walking tour of Pamplona's Old Quarter.** Explore the layered history of this fortified city, from its Roman foundations to its role as a medieval pilgrimage hub.

AFTERNOON / EVENING

- Gather for lunch.
- **Visit to Roncesvalles.** Travel to this Pyrenean pass where many medieval pilgrims entered Spain en route to Santiago. Receive a *credencial*, the traditional pilgrim's passport used to mark progress along the route.
- Gather this evening for a welcome dinner.

Approximate walking distance: 6.5 kilometers / 4 miles

MONDAY, MARCH 23: PAMPLONA / MURUZÁBAL / PUENTE LA REINA / ESTELLA / LAGUARDIA

B,D

MORNING

- **Visit to the Church of Santa María de Eunate.** Explore the unusual octagonal plan and sculpted capitals of this Romanesque church, long associated with the pilgrimage route and the Knights of the Order of St. John.
- **Walk to Puente La Reina.** Continue on foot to this medieval town where two major branches of the Camino join.

AFTERNOON / EVENING

- Lunch is at leisure.
 - **Visit to the Palace of the Kings of Navarre and San Pedro de la Rúa.** In Estella, view the impressive Romanesque cloister of this former collegiate church, one of the region's oldest ecclesiastical buildings.
 - Continue to Laguardia, a fortified hill town at the center of the Rioja Alavesa wine district. Settle in at the Hotel Villa de Laguardia for a two-night stay.
 - Dinner is at a nearby restaurant.
- Approximate walking distance: 4.5 kilometers / 2.75 miles

TUESDAY, MARCH 24: LAGUARDIA / LOGROÑO

B,L

MORNING

- **Guided tour of Logroño's Old Quarter.** Walk through this university city's historic center and visit the Co-Cathedral of Santa María de La Redonda, home to a painting attributed to Michelangelo and wood sculptures by Gregorio Fernández, a leading figure of Spanish Baroque.

AFTERNOON / EVENING

- **Wine pairing lunch at Bodegas Baigorri.** Sample wines from the Rioja Alavesa appellation during a tasting at this beautifully designed winery.
 - **Visit to Santa María Church.** View the sculpted portico of this 12th-century church in Laguardia and take time to explore the walled village's traditional wine *bodegas*, stopping in some of the numerous cellars to taste or buy magnificent local wines.
 - The remainder of the day and dinner are at leisure.
- Rest day (only sightseeing walking)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25: LAGUARDIA / NÁJERA / AZOFRA / SANTO DOMINGO DE LA CALZADA / BURGOS

B,L

MORNING

- **Visit to the Monasterio de Santa María La Real de Nájera.** Explore the royal pantheon of Navarrese monarchs and knights in this 11th-century monastic complex.





Burgos Cathedral

- **Walk to Azofra.** Follow a portion of the Camino before continuing by coach to Santo Domingo de la Calzada, where you will enjoy lunch.

AFTERNOON / EVENING

- **Visit to the Cathedral of Santo Domingo de la Calzada.** See the Romanesque and Gothic elements of this cathedral, named for the 11th-century hermit who assisted pilgrims by building roads and bridges across the region.
 - Continue to Burgos and check into the Hotel NH Palacio de Burgos.
 - Dinner is at leisure.
- Approximate walking distance: 5.8 kilometers / 3.6 miles*

THURSDAY, MARCH 26: BURGOS

B,L

MORNING

- **Guided visit to Burgos Cathedral.** Explore one of Spain's largest and most distinguished Gothic churches, begun in 1221 and recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

AFTERNOON / EVENING

- Gather for lunch.
 - **Visit to the Monastery of Santo Domingo de Silos.** Attend a performance of Gregorian chant by the Benedictine monks, renowned for their recordings and liturgical continuity.
 - **Walk through the Río Vena valley.** On return to Burgos, stroll a short forest path that once formed part of the Camino pilgrimage route.
 - Dinner is at leisure.
- Approximate walking distance: 6.1 kilometers / 3.8 miles*

FRIDAY, MARCH 27: BURGOS / CALZADA DEL COTO / CALZADILLA DE LOS HERMANILLOS / LEÓN

B,L,D

MORNING

- **Walk from Calzada del Coto to Calzadilla de los Hermanillos.** Begin the day with a hike along a peaceful stretch of the Camino, passing rural farmland and quiet villages.

AFTERNOON / EVENING

- Enjoy a casual lunch of regional tapas.
 - Continue to León and check into the Parador de León.
 - Dinner is at the hotel.
- Approximate walking distance: 8.7 kilometers / 5.4 miles*

SATURDAY, MARCH 28: LEÓN

B,D

MORNING

- **Guided visit to Casa Botines.** Discover Gaudí's early work in León, a neo-Gothic palace built in 1891 that houses his architectural models and a collection of 19th- and 20th-century Spanish paintings.
- **Expert-led look at León Cathedral.** Known for its extensive stained glass spanning seven centuries, the cathedral represents a northern Gothic style that invites comparison with its French contemporaries.
- **Guided tour of the Basilica of San Isidoro.** View Romanesque capitals, royal tombs, and frescoes in the Pantheon of Kings, often likened to the Sistine Chapel for its painted ceiling.

AFTERNOON / EVENING

- Enjoy lunch on your own and time at leisure to explore León's plazas, museums, or cafés before reconvening for dinner at the hotel.
- Approximate walking distance: 2.1 kilometers / 1.3 miles*

SUNDAY, MARCH 29: LEÓN / ASTORGA / PONFERRADA / VILAFRANCA DEL BIERZO

B,L,D

MORNING

- **Visit to the Bishop's Palace in Astorga.** Designed by Gaudí in the late 19th century, this structure combines neo-Gothic form with sculptural flourishes and now houses a museum devoted to the Camino.

AFTERNOON / EVENING

- Gather for lunch.
 - **Visit to the Templar Castle in Ponferrada.** Explore the 12th-century fortress once held by the Knights Templar, with its Romanesque ramparts.
 - **Walk through Ponferrada's medieval quarter.** Follow the Camino as it weaves through historic lanes before continuing westward.
 - Dinner and overnight are at the Parador de Villafranca del Bierzo.
- Approximate walking distance: 6.7 kilometers / 4.2 miles*



Bishop's Palace, Astorga

MONDAY, MARCH 30: VILLOFRANCA DEL BIERZO / MONTE DO GOZO / SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA / CAPE FINISTERRE

B,L

MORNING

- **Walk through Villafranca del Bierzo.** Visit key sites in this town historically associated with rest and spiritual preparation for pilgrims nearing Santiago.

AFTERNOON / EVENING

- **Walk from Monte do Gozo toward Santiago.** After lunch, join other pilgrims on foot for the final approach to the cathedral, visible from this hilltop vantage.
- Arrive in Santiago and check into the San Francisco Hotel Monumento. Dinner is at leisure.
- **An optional excursion is available to Cape Finisterre,** once seen as the symbolic end of the known world. Watch the sun set over the Atlantic with a glass of Cava. *Approximate walking distance: 4.7 kilometers / 2.9 miles*

TUESDAY, MARCH 31: SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

B,D

MORNING

- **Walking tour of Santiago's Old Town.** Explore key landmarks of this UNESCO-listed city, which for centuries has drawn pilgrims across the European continent.
- **Attend Mass at the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela.** Experience the pilgrim liturgy at noon, featuring the *Botafumeiro*, a suspended incense censer that swings above the congregation in a dramatic arc.

AFTERNOON / EVENING

- Lunch and the afternoon are at leisure.
 - Gather tonight for a festive farewell dinner.
- Rest day (only sightseeing walking)*

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1: SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA / MADRID / RETURN

B

Transfer to the Santiago de Compostela airport for the return flight, connecting through Madrid.

DISCLAIMER: *The itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of Georgia Tech and Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms.*

ACCOMMODATIONS

HOTEL TRES REYES, PAMPLONA

Modern rooms and an acclaimed Navarran restaurant make this centrally located hotel a comfortable base in Pamplona.

HOTEL VILLA DE LAGUARDIA

A quiet retreat amid Rioja vineyards, this hotel offers peaceful views, two restaurants, and a spa focused on regional treatments.

HOTEL NH PALACIO DE BURGOS

Housed in a 16th-century Gothic building near the Burgos Cathedral, this hotel blends historic architecture with contemporary comfort and views of the Arlanzón.

PARADOR DE LEÓN

Formerly a monastery and royal hospital, this 16th-century property showcases León's imperial past in its cloisters, chapter house, and soaring public spaces. Rooms are elegant, and the on-site restaurant serves traditional Castilian fare.

PARADOR DE VILLOFRANCA DEL BIERZO

A restful pause before the final stretch to Santiago, this hillside *parador* offers mountain views, regional stone architecture, and a restaurant known for its seasonal cuisine.

SAN FRANCISCO HOTEL MONUMENTO, SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

Minutes from the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela, enjoy the tranquility of an 18th-century Franciscan convent with four-star amenities, including a heated swimming pool and Jacuzzi.



Photos clockwise from top left: Hotel Villa de Laguardia, Laguardia; Parador de León, León; Parador de Villafranca del Bierzo, Villafranca del Bierzo; and San Francisco Hotel Monumento, Santiago de Compostela.

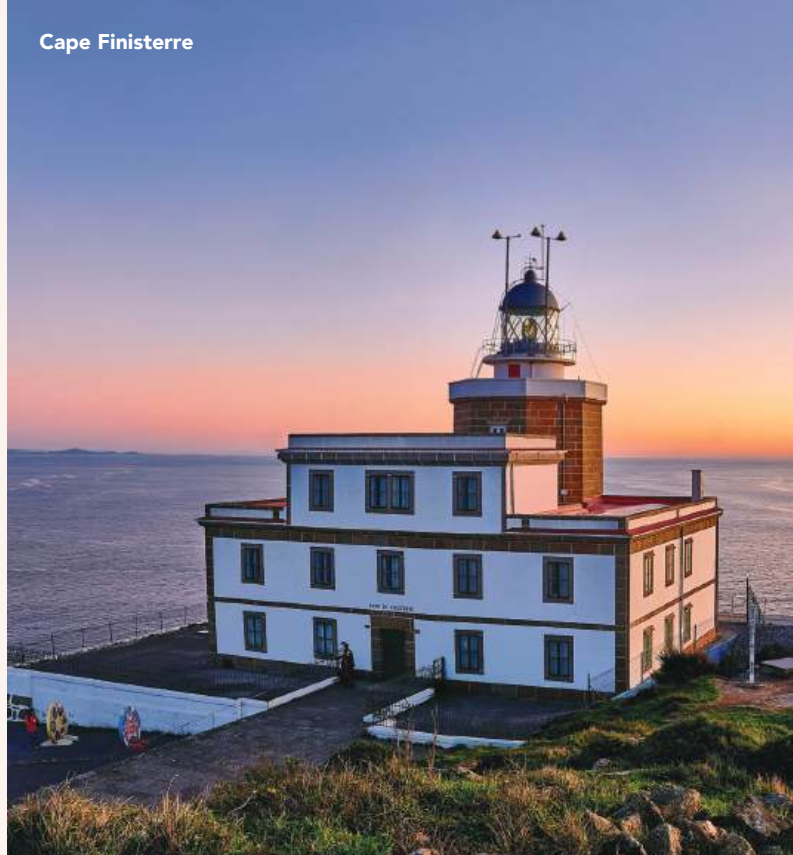


Botafumeiro ritual, Santiago de Compostela

PROGRAM RATE**\$8,699 per person, double rate****\$9,999 single rate****RATES INCLUDES**

- 11 nights hotel accommodations as per itinerary
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, R=Reception, D=Dinner). Bottled water, soft drinks, juices, and coffee/tea with all meals; house wine and beer at all included lunches and dinners
- Airport/hotel/airport group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation, and entrance fees for all included visits
- Taxes, service, and portage charges; gratuities to local guides and drivers

NOT INCLUDED IN RATES International airfare; passport/visa fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than what is noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; excess baggage; trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.

**GEORGIA TECH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION****EL CAMINO DE SANTIAGO: A WALKING TOUR IN NORTHERN SPAIN ■ MARCH 20 – APRIL 1, 2026****RESERVATION FORM**

To reserve a place, please call Arrangements Abroad at phone: 212-514-8921 or 800-221-1944, fax: 212-344-7493; email: trips@arrangementsabroad.com; or complete and return this form with your deposit of \$2,000 per person (of which \$1,000 is non-refundable for administrative fees) payable to *Arrangements Abroad*. Mail to: Arrangements Abroad, 260 West 39th Street, 17th Floor, New York, NY 10018-4424.

Name(s) in full as on passport(s). Please print.

Address

City

State

Zip

Telephone (home)

(business)

Fax

E-mail

ACCOMMODATIONS

Hotel room preference ☐ One bed ☐ Two beds ☐ Single

I wish to share a room with _____

FORM OF PAYMENT

☐ Enclosed is my check (payable to *Arrangements Abroad*)

☐ Debit card

☐ Credit card

Name on credit card

Credit card number

3- or 4-digit security code

Expiration date

I/We confirm that I/we have carefully read and agree to the Terms & Conditions of this Program (see www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms to review or call for a copy). I/We agree to full payment 120 days prior to departure. Each participant must sign below.

Signature (required)

Date

Signature (required)

Date



El Camino de Santiago

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GT Georgia Tech
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190 North Avenue NW
Atlanta, GA 30313

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Front cover: Camino de Santiago trail.

Back cover: Shell along the Camino route (top) and Palace of the Kings of Navarre, Estella (bottom).

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